

# rush of adrenaline

Sophomore makes record with 320 yards on senior night

Zone left was called many times against Lovejoy. That play was meant for sophomore Matt Gadek to run the ball, and the play worked. He finished the game with 320 yards, the fifth best rushing game in the history of the school.

In the end, the Lions fell to the Leopards 50-65.

"They were good but we played really hard," Matt said.

"The left side of our offensive line was blocking better that night because there were more seniors on that side."

Going into the game, Matt didn't know they were going to use a running offense.

"They (Lovejoy) have really good linebackers," Matt said.

"At first we tried to pass a lot, and we went three and out," he said. "Then we went back on the field and we ran, and we did really good and starting getting a lot of yards"

On the sidelines, Matt

jokes around with his teammates but focuses once he steps on the field.

"We talk trash about the other team and how weak they are and how hot their moms are so they can hear us," Matt said. "In the huddle we say 'ready ready' then clap and break. Whenever I get lined up, I zone in."

Matt picked up the game in elementary school and fell in love with the game.

"I've played running back since third grade," Matt said.

"My parents didn't play any sports, I just decided I wanted to play football."

by Nicole Stuessy

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Ulises Velez

## in the running

After a hand off, senior Tyree Johnson runs the ball down the field for an overall 31 rushing yards. The Lions fell short to JJ Pearce 28-45. "It didn't go the way we wanted it to go," Tyree said. "But, overall as a team, it ended in a good way."

## full speed ahead

After a rush for 10 yards, sophomore Matt Gadek scores a touchdown on Frisco Liberty. With a rocky start to the season, Matt got the last touchdown to secure the Lions' first victory. "I felt happy because I did it for the team," Matt said. "And so we could have a win since we had lost the week before."



Ulises Velez



## warm up

On the sidelines, sophomore kicker Gavin Baechele warms up while waiting for the game to turn over. Because of severe weather conditions, the Lions had to continue their second half of the game the following day. "It was a lot different just because it was at a different time," Gavin said. "Whenever it was raining there was no one there to care (in the stands)."

## in the air

Dodging a Liberty football player, senior running back Walker Torrain takes the ball for 40 yards in the first game of the season. "We were going into the game with a really young team," Walker said. "We had a bunch of sophomores playing their very first varsity game."



Chelsea Salinas

Zane Logan



Ulises Velez

## break away

While scrambling to get to the outside, senior Tyree Johnson makes a play against McKinney North. The Lions started out strong but lost their momentum in the second half. "I feel like we have the athletes," Tyree said. "We just make a couple mistakes here and there and it bites us back later on."

## take down

In the middle of the third quarter, junior defensive linebacker Tyler Batson reaches out to assist the tackle on the North player. The Lions scored first against the Bulldogs but lost 21-52. "We can't be scared of anybody," Tyler said. "We have to go out and pretty much kick some butt. We tried to put that in the mind of the whole team."



Ulises Velez



"I guess it was beating Liberty. It was the best game I had of the season. During the game, we all worked together, especially me and Matt."

**WALKER TORRAIN, 12**

"We were up by a touchdown, and it was the last possession of the game, and Liberty scored a touchdown, so they were down a point and they decided to go for 2, and we stopped them."

**JONATHAN HOBART, 11**

"Before every game, we'd go to the freshmen showers, get all the soap and put it on the floor, push off the wall and do slip and slides. John Marrs, Damon Witmer, Quinton Quierenbach and I came up with the idea."

**MATT GADEK, 10**

"Senior night, I got to see how much football meant to a lot of people. I didn't really know them at the beginning of the season and by the end we were really good friends."

**DOMINIC ST. LEON, 10**

"The Lovejoy game: we kept fighting and battling, and we came back, and it was within one touchdown."

**TYREE JOHNSON, 12**

# memories

What will you remember about this season?